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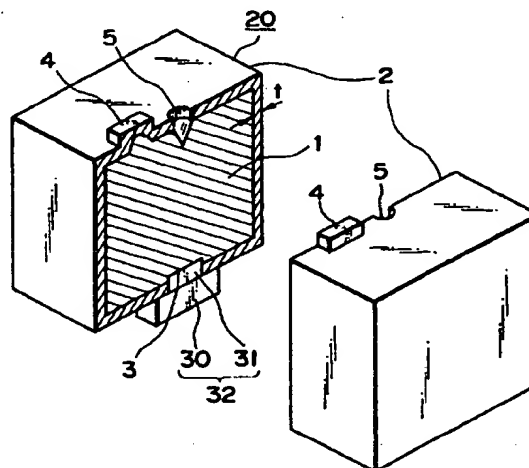
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(54) **Ink container, ink absorbing member usable with the ink container and manufacturing method of the ink container**

(57) An ink container (20) includes an ink absorbing material (1) for retaining ink and producing a negative pressure; a casing, provided with an ink supplying portion (3) and an air vent (5), for accommodating the ink absorbing material (1); wherein the ink absorbing material (1) is of thermoplastic material and has a surface ink blocking layer (2) provided by heating and melting a surface of the absorbing material (1); wherein the ink blocking layer (2) blocks movement of the ink contained in the ink absorbing material to outside, and constitutes at least a part of the casing.



**FIG. 1**

**EP 0 894 630 A3**



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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 98 11 4214

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A	* column 6, line 32 - column 7, line 47; figures 1,3 *	1,11,14, 16,20, 22, 27-29,32	
	* column 8, line 5 - column 16; figure 5 *		
	* column 8, line 50 - column 10, line 24; figures 8-10 *		
	* column 11, line 3-15 *		
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Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 3 May 1999	Examiner Nielsen, M
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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
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